PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q58481

RECEIVED

Yoshiki TAKASHIMA, et al.

OCT 28 2002

Appln. No.: 09/537,416

Group Art Unit: 1651

Confirmation No.: 6832

Examiner: Irene Marx

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: March 29, 2000

METHODS FOR PRODUCING OPTICALLY ACTIVE AMINO ACIDS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

For:

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 25, 2002, in which the Examiner set a three-month period for response. Review and reconsideration on the merits in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

10. (new) A method for producing an optical isomer II from an optical isomer I of an amino acid represented by Formula (1):

R-CH(NH)-COOH

(1)

wherein R is an optionally substituted C1-C12 alkyl group, an optionally substituted C4-C8 cycloalkyl group or an optionally substituted C6-C14 aryl group,

said method comprising reacting a biological material with said optical isomer I, wherein said biological material has an ability of converting said optical isomer I to